



The Dragon Heir
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About the book:

The covenant that was meant to keep the wizard wars at bay has been stolen, and Trinity must prepare for attack. Everyone is doing their part – Seph is monitoring the Weirwalls; Jack and Ellen are training their ghostly army; even Anaweir Will and Fitch are setting booby traps around the town's perimeter. But to Jason Haley, it seems like everyone wants to keep him out of the action. He may not be the most powerful wizard in Trinity, but he's prepared to fight for his friends.

When Jason finds a powerful talisman --a huge opal called the Dragonheart--buried in a cave, his role takes on new importance. The stone seems to sing to Jason's very soul, showing him that he is meant for more than anyone guessed. Trinity's guardians take the stone away after they realize that it may be a weapon powerful enough to save them all. Without any significant power of his own, and now without the stone, what can Jason possibly do to help the people he cares about --and to prove his mettle?

Pre-reading:

Make a list of the top ten things someone should know about the Heir Trilogy before reading this title. Which book was your favorite so far? Why? Predict what you think will happen in this story.

Discussion guide:

1. What preparations are made to protect Trinity from outside threats? Who participates in these preparations? How does Madison Moss fit into these activities?
2. Why do Jason, Nick and the others choose to meet in St. Catherine Church to examine the treasures brought back from Raven's Ghyll? Compare their different reactions to the Dragonheart stone. What feelings does it elicit in them?
3. Explain Alicia Middleton's appearance in Trinity. How is she received by those who've met her before? How does Jason feel about her? Where do you believe her ultimate allegiance lies?
4. Why does Madison keep avoiding Seth? Do you agree with her reasons not to tell anyone about her "leaking" magic? What would you do in her place? Is there anyone in Trinity you would trust with that information?
5. Discuss the painting left behind in Madison's closet. What kind of power does it have? Why did Madison paint it? How does it call into question Madison's allegiance to Seth?
6. What secret does Jason discover about Madison's sister while he is in Coalton County? Do you think this secret will play a part in the remaining story? How does this secret affect Madison?
7. Examine the motives and actions of Brice Roper. How does he feel about Madison? How does Madison finally drive him away?
8. Explain the new wizard alliance that has formed against the Weir in Trinity. How does the Dragonheart play a role in this? Identify the strengths and weaknesses of this alliance.
9. Explain Madison's ultimate transformation and assess her feelings.
10. Discuss the following real world terms/issues as they relate to the trilogy: addiction, bullying, tyranny, peer pressure, caste system, genetic engineering.